

Ahepa Citrus District 2 Order Of Ahepa 81st District Convention The Mariott Renaissance, Boca Raton, Florida

Ahepa Meeting Convened on Friday, June 6th 2014 10:15am

Meeting called to order by DG John Symeonides #410, Prayer by Peter Segallas #15, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, and a moment of silence for the dearly departed Ahepans.

Election of Convention Officers-Oath given by PSG Charles Stamoulis #15

**DG John Symeonides #410 nominates SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 for Convention Chairman- Accepted

**SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 nominates PDG Michael Pantel #16 for Convention Vice-Chairman-Accepted

**DG John Symeonides #410 nomintes Chris Kapakos #394 for Convention Vice-Chairman-Accepted

**SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 nominates Jimmy Makris #489 for Convention Secretary-PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 objected because District Secretary must be Convention Secretary. Kostas Sofikitis #479-Accepted (Jimmy Makris #489 to assist the Convention Secretary).

Credentials Report

**27 Delegates registered, 24 Delegates in attendance(voting strength)

**Includes SGDemetrios Kirkiles #394, four PSG's, six PDG's

**All District Lodge members present except Gus Pantelides #356 & PDG Stefanos Photiades #410

**Our Supreme VP Phillip Frangos #142 will be joining us Saturday

Last year's Minutes were passed out in package

** PSG Lou Logas #161 made a Motion to accept the Minutes, PSG Peter Sergis #401 2nd the Motion-Accepted

Appointment of Committee Chairpersons

**Scholarship - PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 & PSG Lou Logas #161

**Athletic - Comittee as a Whole

**Budget & Audit - Jimmy Makris #489 & Jim Sirks #161

**Grievance - none (will be appointed if needed)

**Credentials - Kostas Sofikitis #479

**Convention City - Committee as a Whole

Chapter Report - PSG Lou Logas #161 Orlando

Chapter Report - PDG Michael Pantel #16 Tarpon Springs

Chapter Report - SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 Fort Lauderdale

Chapter Report - Gus Constantino #487 Boca Raton

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented that at the San Francisco Supreme Convention it was voted on that dues for SOP 14-17 years of age are free. Jimmy Makris added that this originated in the Montreal Convention. Demetrios said it was voted on twice due to procedural issue to clarify it. And SOP dues from 18-27 years of age are \$40 for a Joint Membership in the SOP & Ahepa.

Chapter Report - PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 St. Petersburg

Chapter Report - Jimmy Makris & Jimmy Koutsos #489 New Port Richey

Chapter Report - PSG Peter Sergis #401 Melbourne

Chapter Report - Steve Pavlakos #18 West Palm Beach

Chapter Report - Kostas Sofikitis #479 Hobe Sound

PDG Michael Pantel #16 commented that we need to reach out to youth. Encourage sports so we can get them involved. Also, approach men to join Ahepa. Many don't join because they aren't asked.

Chapter Report - DG John Symeonides #410 Daytona

Officer Report-District Secretary Kostas Sofikitis #479

**visited #410 Daytona beach a couple times

**made attempts to visit chapters down south but didn't work out

**but spoke with president of church and priest in Miami, they were hopeful to revive local chapter

**participated in Greek Independence Day Parade in Tarpon Springs

Chapter Report - Gus Pantelides #356 Largo (letter read by PSG Charles Stamoulis), PDG Michael Pantel #16 commented on all the hard work Gus puts in to make his chapter successful.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented to use free conference calling that is available to use when boards can't physically meet. He discussed why this is such an important tool to use.

Officer Report-District Scholarship PSG Lou Logas #161

**Every member in our District, is a member of our Educational Foundation.

**Foundation awarded 141 scholarships (over \$100,000 since 2006), recipients from every Chapter in the District.

**Appealing for support from Chapter's within District.

**Since 2006, started with approximately \$35,000, raised over \$225,000, now have \$135,000, goal is \$200,000.

**Chapter #489 donates \$1500 per year to the Foundation

**8 Gold Life Members @ \$1000 each, would like every member within District and Chapter to participate.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented to contribute to Marathon Team, each runner gets \$2500 to contribute to our Education Foundation. This year our District is sending zero, so we will get nothing.

Officer Report - Lt. Governor Phillip Amorganos #6 Jacksonville

**President of Socrates #6

**Attended Greek Landing Day Memorial in New Smyrna

**Attended Testimonial Dinner for Supreme Governor Dalton Respas

**Leadership symposium at the Ahep Housing in Daytona

**Represented District at the St. Photias Shrine Luncheon

Chapter Report - Phillip Amorganos #6 Jacksonville

Adjourned on Friday, June 6th 2014@12:15pm

Joint Meeting Convened on Saturday, June 7th 2014 9:00am

Joint meeting called to order by DOP Chairwoman Joanne Sackedis, Prayer by Fr. Mark Leonas, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Introduced Ahepa/DOP dignitaries.

Announcement of Scholarship Winners

**DOP District Scholarship presented by Grand Secretary Connie Pilallis to Demetra Musgrove of FSU

**Ahepa Citrus District 2 Educational Foundation Scholarships presented by Past Grand President Nicky Stamoulis. And the winner are;

- National \$1000 Scholarship - Marianthi Karas #401 Ahepa Melbourn
- Angelo Lagadas Scholarship - Demetrios Kampouris #18 Ahepa West Palm Beach
- Angelo Lagadas Scholarship - Kyriakos Tomadakis #394 Ahepa Fort Lauderdale
- Past District Governor's Scholarship - Catherine Sergis #401 Ahepa Melbourn
- Steno Augustine Memorial Scholarship - Alice Song #211 MOA St.Petersburg
- Tony Callisis Memorial Scholarship - Haralambos Petalas #356 Ahepa Largo
- Jordan Joanides Memorial Scholarship - George Denning #343 DOP Daytona
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Olivia Pedroff #15 Ahepa St. Petersburg
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Christina Murray #210 DOP St. Petersburg
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Peter Karas#401 Ahepa Melbourne
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Anna Stamatogiannakis #6 Ahepa Jacksonville
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Marianna Babialakis #372 DOP Boca Raton
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Eleni Mavris #356 Ahepa Largo
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Alyssa Karas #487 Ahepa Boca Raton
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Maria Stamatogiannakis #6 Ahepa Jacksonville
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Demetra Musgrove #18 Ahepa West Palm Beach
- Ahepa District 2 Educational Foundation - Paul Pavlakos #18 Ahepa West Palm Beach

Ahepa Supreme Vice-President Phillip Frangos #142

**Congratulates Scholarship Winners!

**Will seek nomination for Ahepa Supreme President at this year's Supreme Convention in New Orleans.

**His son Themis (an Attorney) established an Ahepa Chapter in Chicago and serves on District Lodge.

**Ahepa gives Over \$500,000 per year in scholarships.

**Last year Ahepa initiated & reinstated over 2000 members, but lost approximately 2300 members.

**Ahepa sent 1100 members delinquent in dues a survey, one-third responded back saying they are still members, reflects miscommunication concerning member contact information, also lost members due to poor communication and poor administration. Will be reported at Supreme Convention.

**District Governor's Workshop at Supreme Convention will stress basics, duties & organization of meetings of Lodges. There will be follow-up Workshops for President's and Secretary's of Chapters.

**District Governors are CEO's of Districts, they must delegate because Districts are too large.

**Don't make apologies for our Organization, because our Organization is great!

**First duty, what would intrigue individuals to get involved-develop a plan.

**Four groups of individuals-60yr+, 40-50yr professionals (these are ones we really should be bringing in for leadership positions), 30-40yr young professionals, and young adults & students.

**There are only 168 hours in a week, respect members time, just need a few quality hours per month.

DOP District Chairman Joanne Sackedis commented that we are so blessed to have so many members with us today.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented over the past 18 months Ahepa has been feeding 500 people every month. We should be humbled and work more harder to do more.

Past Grand President Kallie Xenakis suggested that we should shorten District Convention by one day.

Joanne Sackedis commented, to reduce overnight costs, would help to reduce District Convention by one day. Asked to have discussion and comments on this as well as reducing Supreme Convention as well. SVP Philip Frangos offered that they are considering 3 1/2 day Supreme Convention, but will take time.

DOP District Governor Denning commented that each time we give a scholarship, we should extend the opportunity to become a member.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented that everyone who runs on the Ahepa Marathon Team becomes a member of the Ahepa family. Also, concerning SOP dues ages 14-17years is free, 18-27years is \$40 for dual membership. Can be a Delegate as well.

Gus Parras #12 Tampa commented that we should be utilizing the digital age, and would like to see biographies of our Leaders.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented that we should call youth "fresh blood" not the young.

DOP District Governor Leah Fabio commented that we should plan with Ahepa small events throughout the year, and at different parts of the State to get the Ahepa family together. Currently, coming apart at seams.

DG John Symeonides #410 commented that we started on a good path with the DOP for a better future.

Grand Governor Julia Collins commented concerning the 3 C's (communication, cooperation, consideration). This is what all we need to do. That's all we need to do to survive.

PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 last year we changed the Bylaws to say that next years District Convention would be awarded at this Joint Meeting. So convention Bids must be presented at this meeting.

Judith Koutsos DOP #323 presented a Bid for the 2015 District Convention. No other Bids presented.

PDG Peter Papademetrious #401 commented on problems affecting his chapters SOP.

MOA District Secretary Tria Tarnis commented on how important it is to give membership applications out at time scholarships are received. Help students by paying there way to conventions and establishing an online presence. Maids information could be found on Facebook and Twitter, as well online at maidsofathena.org.

PSG Lou Logas #161 commented on the success of the Ahepa Educational Foundation scholarships

DG John Symeonides #410 commented on using Facebook for District and Chapters.

PDG Michael Pantel #16 commented on not seeing any youth, need to provide free memberships for them.

Judith Koutsos DOP #323 commented that information concerning next years District Convention will be updated and posted on there website, which is Eros356.org.

Adjourned on Saturday, June 7th 2014 @10:20am

Ahepa Meeting Reconvened on Saturday, June 7th 2014 10:50am

Meeting called to order by Convention Chairman SG Demetrios Kirkiles.

Credentials Report

**27 Delegates registered, 22 Delegates in attendance (voting strength)

Chapter Report - Gus Paras #12 Tampa

Chapter Report - Chris Kapakos #394 Fort Lauderdale

PDG Michael Pantel #15 commented that he doesn't see anyone from Miami , Kendall or Hollywood , Kostas Sofikitis #479 responded that he got in touch with them, but they can't attend due to there age.

This Concludes All Chapter Reports

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented that our website is alot more organized than District#1, thanks to Charles Stamoulis for helping keep things organized.

Scholarship Report by PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 (additional comments)

**names of scholarship recipients reported at Joint Meeing with the DOP

**deadline date for applying will be moved up

**Next year scholarship winners announcement will be made at Banquet.

**Will ask Chapter's when they give there scholarships, so we can present ours along with there's.

**Will mailout to past scholarship recipients to join the Gold Lifetime Membership \$1000.

**Blessed with Foundation Secretary Nicky Stamoulis energy to get things done for the Foundation.

PSG Lou Logas #161 commented that 16% of recipients parents donated to the Foundation, and was able to raise alot of money at this convention.

Supreme VP Phillip Frangos #142 walked in and commented that he received a call from Supreme Treasurer , and that the District Governor #21 is working on a big Western Regional Convention that will take place in 2 weeks comprising Districts 17,20,21&22. There is expected to be over 200 Delegates attending.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented that the reason he was late for the meeting, was because the 2 MOA that are attending the Convention want to run on the Ahepa Marathon Team. This will benefit the Foundation.

Supreme VP Phillip Frangos #142 commented that he would like to see at least one youngster sponsored by each District, so they can attend the Journey to Greece Program, to expose these younsters to Hellenism.

Peter Segallas #15 commented, when we give a scholarship, it's not just the money, we are recognizing them and honoring them for there tremendous efforts. Make's an immeasurable impact on resume.

PSG Lou Logas #161 commented that just having scholarship on resume helps kids get jobs.

Gus Paras #12 commented, that wemshould have an Ahepa Scholars group, as soon as they receive a scholarship, they are automatically a member of Ahepa Scholars.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented that the Journey to Greece attendees have a Facebook page, and stay in touch with each other.

PSG Charles Adams #15 commented that in Pennsylvania they would hold a Scholarship Banquet yearly.

Homer Zambigadis #479 commented that we need to approach students at Universities to inform them of Ahepa scholarships. A lot of students need this help, and are being declined Visa's to study in US.

Athletic Report by PDG Michael Pantel#16 for Gus Pantelides #356

**Gus Pantelides #356 was appointed Athletic Director after the current Director stepped down, so there was no time to put any athletic events together. But next year, plans to put an Athletic program together.

Budget/Audit and Treasury Report by Jimmy Makris #489 & Jim Sirks #161

**Jimmy Makris #489 stated, as Auditor of the District, we are fortunate to have Jim Sirks #161 as Treasurer, he is excellent.

**700 members according to National, 673 paid District Assessment.

**Since excess funds in District account, last year at District Convention decided to donate it to Foundation.

**Received \$2000 in Gold Life Memberships this year.

**PSG Lou Logas #161 has always been the hardest worker for the Foundation, by raising money selling raffle tickets and soliciting donations.

**The Foundation's Funds are invested in Government Agencies, earning 3 to 4% interest.

**PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 added, \$5000 was voted last year to be part of the DG Fund of the Foundation.

**PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 made a Motion to Accept Treasurers Report, seconded by PSG Lou Logas #161

Website Report by PSG Charles Stamoulis #15

**started website 14 years ago using Microsoft Frontpage, afterwards Microsoft discontinued Frontpage so went to Zoomba. But now we are behind on versions (4 versions behind) and it's easy to hack. Estimated cost to update to newer version is estimated at \$600-700.

**Only Gus Pantelides #356 posts events to website, also received something from Hobbe Sound #479.

**Every chapter must appoint someone to send posts to website, and must have central location.

**website address for District 2 is www.ahepad2.org

**Supreme VP Phillip Frangos #142 added that communication is important. District Lodge needs to have a master central calendar, and let National know about it so they can have time to plan to attend those events.

**If your Chapter has a website, the District website can add a link to your Chapter website.

**The District DOP asked to have there link removed from our District website

**All Forms are on the District website. Just use it.

Grievance Report by Comittee as a Whole

**SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 said there are no grievances-peace & harmony prevails

District Governor Report by DG John Symeonides #410

**Started with attending last years cruise hosted by #15, and Supreme Convention in Orlando

**Attended DG conferences, and met with District 1 DG, excited about another Joint Convention

**Participated in Joint Xmas party with DOP in Fort Meyer, and Epiphany in Tarpon Springs

**Met with SOP & MOA in Gainesville & with Kurt Panuthos SOP Advisor concerning starting basketball team

**Was a pleasure initiating George Denning into the SOP

**Attended Dalton Respass testimonial dinner & attended Greek Independence Day Parade in Tarpon Spring

**Attended Clearwater Chapter meet & greet with Supreme President Anthony Kouzounis

**Attended District 2 Beach Retreat coordinated by Mary Denning, and Ahepa month breakfast at St. Catherine, Gainesville Ahepa dance, Foundation Scholarship dance in Melbourne, Scholarship awards in St. Petersburg, Greek Night Dinner dance in Jacksonville, and New Smyrna Memorial service luncheon.
**Working on re-activation of St. Augustine Chapter
**Attended Pilgrimage to Cuba, and Consecration at St George in New Port Richey
**Create Ahepa District 2 Facebook, and willing to create Facebook for every chapter in our District

PDG Michael Pantel #16 commented that Kurt Panuthos from Melbourne is trying to put together an Ahepa Florida Basketball Team (ages 18-35years). Gus Pantelides #356 District Athletic director may head this effort.

SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 commented that during the District 1 midyear conference, they had a basketball team were the ages range from 18-42years.

This Concludes All Committee and Officers Reports

Motion - Homer Zambigadis #479 made a Motion to "To Expand the amount of time District Conventions would be held, could be up to one month earlier, so the timeframe of District Convention would be April to June. This motion was seconded by DG John Symeonides #410. Voted-Failed Acceptance.

Motion - PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 made a Motion "that we support our SG Demetrios Kirkiles as the favored candidate of District 2 for nomination to Supreme Governor at the Supreme Convention. This motion was seconded by DG John Symeonides #410, Voted-Unanimously Passed

For The Good of The Order

****PSG Lou Logas #161** - Since younger Ahepans are getting onto District Lodge, there job is to communicate with the youth and to get them involved.

****PDG Michael Panel #16** - Let's have a Joint Convention with District 1. They recently had a District Convention in a beautiful resort in Pensacola Florida, we can join them for greater participation.

****Kostas Sofikitis #479** - Need to provide a program that will attract our kids to attend these Conventions, and make it affordable so our kids could attend.

****SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394** - Our children are our present, not our future, they should be treated as our leaders of today, and treat them like that.

****Homer Zambigadis #479** - If we plan ahead, and put something on your calendar, you can always make time to attend meetings, events and conventions.

****PSG Lou Logas #161** - During Orlando Convention, we provided special prices for the kids and it was successful.

****SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394** - Hoping to have an Ahepa Basketball Team for the Luna Rover program

****DG John Symeonides #410** - Need to have more workers, not leaders. Would like to see a workshop at Conventions on how to work together.

Motion - DG John Symeonides #410 made Motion "that next years District Convention be shortened by one day, meeting start on Friday no earlier than noon, subject to DOP concurrence, and suspending Bylaws for one year". Seconded by Kostas Sofikitis #479. Voted-Failed Acceptance.

Motion - PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 made a Motion "to submit the Motion (listed above) for next years District Convention to the standing legislative committee for acceptance" . Seconded by Kostas Sofikitis #479. Voted- Unanimously Passed.

Elections

To expedite, PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 will Nominate the entire slate of District Lodge Officers. As follows;

**Kostas Sofikitis #479 for District Governor

**Phillip Amorganos #6 for Lt. Governor (received letter that he would accept nomination)

**Jimmy Makris #489 for Secretary

**Jim Sirks #161 for Treasurer

**Gus Pantelides #356 for Athletic Director (received letter that he would accept nomination)

**Steve Pavlakos #18 for Warden

**Chris Kapakos #394 for Marshall

One Vote casted for unanimous vote to Elect All Officers- Unanimously Passed.

For The Good of The Order

****Steve Pavlakos #18** - We are Ahepans, we are a strong district. We suppose to work together, have discussions and come to agree on issues. Because one organization becomes larger and a little stronger it does not mean they can tell us what to do. This is not a DOP convention but a DOP/AHEPA and both stand their ground, have a discussion, on a confrontation and come to a conclusion.

****Homer Zambigades #479** - Spoke about more explanation needed about this section of the bylaws.

PSG Charles Stamoulis #15 - spoke of an incident.

**A month ago DOP District Governor Lia Fabro called me up and said I know you personally invited SVP Frangos to be our guest. I told her I spoke to him in Detroit and he said he will be attending our convention. She told me he will be limited to 3 min of speaking and I responded I cannot tell the SVP to limit his speech.

**Also, she changed the order, no AHEPAN of year, no Best chapter and no scholarship winners will be announced at the banquet but will be announced at the joint meeting.

**I objected to the violation of our By-laws. She responded that "You and your lot suspended the Bylaws so you can have the cruise convention. So now I can kick your By-laws aside".

**She filed a complaint with the GL and SL against me. I have all her emails and the only email I wrote was about with the violation of the bylaws.

**Her charges are:

1. She called me a liar.
2. She accused me of bullying her.
3. I personally invited the SVP to attend the convention and the AHEPA District Lodge should pay for his room.
4. District scholarships not to be announced at the banquet.

**The SP Kouzounis answer was he "was ready to defend my character, passion and deep involvement in maintaining peace in the AHEPA". Also he states "I know for a fact the assignment for SVP Frangos to District 2 convention was determined in a conference amongst myself (SP), SVP, SS and ST".

He recommended to follow the AHEPA Family protocol for the DG SG Region 1 and DOP GG Liaison to D2 to arbitrate any issues or disagreements.

**Our By-laws state Scholarship recipients should be announced at the banquet. She refused to.

I was told that SG Demetrios Kirkiles and GS Connie Pilallis had reached an agreement that they will withdraw the grievance as long as we follow their schedule. Which we did.

**DOP PDGs acting as the grievance committee of the convention took the grievance to their meeting and decided to forward it to National.

**SG Kirkiles said he will submit a written report of the negotiations to SP Kouzounis.

Motion - Chris Kapakos #394 made a motion that this body stand in support of PSG Charles Stamoulis #15, that he is not standing alone on this issue. Seconded by Kostas Sofikitis #479.

Discussion

****Gus Paras #12** - we spent all this time talking about it. As senior member of this organization we need to step forward and say "stop arguing with each other, what's happened happened."

****SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394** replied that we did that yesterday, we reached an agreement.

****PSG Peter Sergis #401** added how can one person from DOP change our bylaws and decide what we are going to do.

****PSG Lou logas #161** added, I support the motion. The fault lies with AHEPA District Lodge because there was no representation in approving the program of the convention.

****SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394** announced that the application for next year’s convention is incomplete, so it will be submitted to District Lodge for a final decision.

****Peter Segallis #15** support the motions. We need to leave with a good feeling.

****Kostas Sofikitis #479** commented that it’s simple, I agree with PSG Lou Logas #394, Harmony is simple, we have Bylaws. Follow the By-laws and there is no disruption of harmony. They need to be respected by all, and questioned SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394 why there are no Ahepans involved in next year’s convention.

****SG Demetrios Kirkiles #394** replied that the application was not complete and the District Lodge will have to act on it. And added “This is not Charles’ fight, it is against our Bylaws.

Vote in favor of motion. None opposed, Unnanimously passed.

Raffle Ticket Winners announced by PSG Lou Logas #161

- ** \$300 - Mitchell Sotirin** 4149 Ruby Dr W, Jacksonville, Fl 32246 (904)316-8686
- ** \$300 - Christina Grand** 125 Oyster Pl, Rockledge, Fl 32955 (321)631-3418
- ** \$200 - Jim Theodassakos** West Palm Beach, Fl (561)547-9586
- ** \$200 - Zagonos** (321)426-9326
- ** \$200 - Chapter#15** St. Petersburg, Fl
- **\$100 - Mary Prinos** 1401 Heather Ridge Blvd, Dunedin, Fl 34698
- **\$100 - Gus Paras** 3908 San Miguel, Tampa, Fl 33629 (813)254-6980

Adjourned on Saturday, June 7th 2014 @1:40pm

